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## USPTO -Examiner Godenschwager - Art Unit 196



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PATENT  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. 10/532,202  
Applicant(s): STEFFEN HASENZAHN, ET AL.  
Filed: April 14, 2005  
TC/A.U. 1796  
Examiner: Peter F. Godenschwager  
Title: PULVERULENT MATERIALS

Confirmation No.: 6755

Docket No.: 032301.415  
Customer No.: 25461

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

**LETTER TO EXAMINER PRIOR TO INTERVIEW**

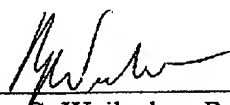
The following is a proposal for discussion purposes only at an interview to be scheduled.

It is proposed to amend the claims as shown on the attached pages.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:

  
Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531

Dated: October 15, 2008  
Suite 3100, Promenade II  
1230 Peachtree Street, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3592  
Telephone: (404) 815-3593  
Facsimile: (404) 685-6893

LIT\1051458.1

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**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) Pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof, comprising one or more surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxides wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula  $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$  where  $n=2-18$  which are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl attached to said silica, and having the following physicochemical properties:

BET surface area	25-400 m <sup>2</sup> /g
Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-25% [[; or]] .

(b) ~~a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:~~

<del>BET surface area</del>	<del>25-400 m<sup>2</sup>/g</del>
<del>Average primary particle size</del>	<del>5-50 nm</del>
<del>pH value</del>	<del>3-10</del>
<del>Carbon content</del>	<del>0.1-10%</del>
<del>DBP number %:</del>	<del>&lt;200.</del>

2. (Currently Amended) Method of improving the flowability of pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof, comprising adding to the pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof one or more surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic

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oxides wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula  $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$  where  $n=2-18$  which are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl attached to said silica, and having the following physiochemical properties:

BET surface area	25-400 m <sup>2</sup> /g
Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-25%[[; or]] .

~~(b) a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physiochemical data:~~

<del>BET surface area</del>	<del>25-400 m<sup>2</sup>/g</del>
<del>Average primary particle size</del>	<del>5-50 nm</del>
<del>pH value</del>	<del>3-10</del>
<del>Carbon content</del>	<del>0.1-10%</del>
<del>DBP number %:</del>	<del>&lt;200.</del>

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising at least one pulverulent material which is a fire-extinguishing powder and at least one surface-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula  $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$  where  $n=2-18$  which are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl attached to said silica, and having the following physiochemical properties:

BET surface area	25-400 m <sup>2</sup> /g
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Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-25%[[; or ]] .

~~(b) a silanized structure modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:~~

BET surface area	25-400 m <sup>2</sup> /g
Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-10%
DBP number %:	<200.

5.-13. (Cancelled)